

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/012053

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
- ☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements** of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:
- ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
- pages 3-10 as originally filed/furnished
- pages* 1, 2 received by this Authority on 18.03.2005 with letter of 14.03.2005
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the claims:
- nos. 1-8 as originally filed/furnished
- nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the drawings:
- sheets 1/1 as originally filed/furnished
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1. Statement			
Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1-8</u>	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	<u>1-8</u>	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1-8</u>	YES
	Claims		NO
2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)			
<p>1. None of the cited documents disclose all the features of claims 1 to 8. The subject matter of these claims is therefore novel.</p> <p>2. The closest prior art is described in DE-A-10 032 179. The problem with the prior art control system is that the actuators in all the sub-systems are controlled from the co-ordination level. This means there are relatively long signal paths, resulting in unnecessarily long control times for vehicle axle-specific elements.</p> <p>3. As a solution to this problem the application proposes connecting an axle electronics module to the co-ordination level. The module is located near the vehicle axle and controls the brake actuator and the controllable differential lock.</p> <p>This shortens the wiring paths and reduces the networking complexity and the control times.</p> <p>4. The idea of adopting these features in the control system known from DE-A-10 032 179 does not seem</p>			

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	<p>obvious. The subject matter of claim 1 therefore appears to involve an inventive step.</p> <p>5. Claims 2 to 8 are dependent on claim 1, and consequently their subject matter is also novel and inventive. Claims 1 to 8 thus appear to meet the requirements of PCT Article 33(1) to 33(3).</p>